

NEWS IN BRIEF

Meet the candidates

The public is invited to a Meet the Candidates Forum at VFW Post 4434 on Tuesday, September 24. The forum will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 7:30.

Citizens for Responsible Govern-

ment will sponsor the event.

Each candidate will have three minutes to speak. After each candidate has spoken, questions will be taken from citizens.

If time allows, residents will be able to talk with the candidates following the forum.

Refreshments will be served. For further information please contact Jeannette Richichi at (734) 753-4672 or Mary Herring at (734) 697-4835.

Belleville Harvest Fest

The 2002 Belleville Harvest Fest is scheduled for Saturday, October

19th, with the parade taking place at 11:00 a.m. Festivals events are scheduled to begin at noon.

Parade entries are invited to call Jim McCow at (734) 699-3258 to register to participate.

Chamber Craft Show

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking crafters for their 4th annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Show. Schedule for Saturday, November 2 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at Belleville High School, the event will host top quality holiday fare for crafters and shoppers.

Applications can be picked up at

the chamber offices at 248 Main Street in Belleville.

Booth rental begins at \$20 and is available on a first come first serve basis.

Chamber to host Ficano

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that Sheriff Robert Ficano, candidate for Wayne County Executive, will be the guest speaker at the general membership meeting on Thursday, September 26. The meeting is open to the public and will begin at noon at the Holiday Inn Express.

Reservations can be obtained by calling (734) 697-7151.

Casablanca Night

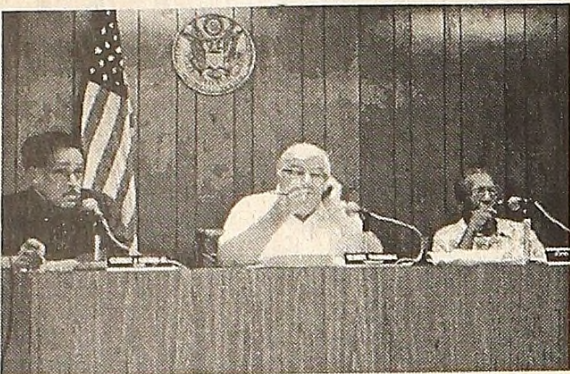
The Yankee Air Museum will be holding its annual dinner dance called Casablanca Night on Saturday September 21, to open at 6:30 p.m., dinner to be served at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$35.00 per person and are available at the Yankee Air Museum gift shop.

Located at Beck and Ecorse Roads in the Willow Run Airport, the Museum will also sponsor a pancake breakfast in honor of their anniversary on Sunday, September

22 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Mayfield fundraiser to be held

Gloria Cox, Sumpter resident is announcing a fundraiser spaghetti dinner to be held at Sumpter Community Center on Saturday, September 28 to help the Roger Mayfield family. Mayfield is the Sumpter officer injured while making an arrest who had been without pay for four months. Anyone wishing to contribute to the dinner, to volunteer his or her time, or wanting to attend the dinner can contact Cox at (734) 753-4619.



Parraghi sits and listens to residents who pack township hall over several issues, including the hiring of a new personal secretary without following the policy adopted by the board.

The Wayne Eagle

USPS #70-540

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The Inkster Ledger Star

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Van Buren Woman bound over on armed robbery

Reshard Dobbins and Perlina Coward have met up with Romulus Police and Judge Brian Oakley of the 34th District Court. Dobbins, a habitual offender in the system, and Coward were both arraigned Friday in Oakley's courtroom on several charges.

Dobbins is charged with armed robbery, extortion, felony firearm, felon in possession of a firearm and habitual offender. Oakley set bond for Dobbins at a quarter of a million dollars due to his habitual status.

Coward was arraigned on armed robbery and felony firearm. Bail has been set for her at \$25,000.

Both were apprehended by the Romulus Police after an incident involving each and victim Kenneth Bryant in which the duo attempted to rob Bryant and extort more money from him on the threat of death.

Bryant had gone with Coward to legitimately sell a handgun he owned. Arriving at 6445 Gloria Street, Bryant was robbed at gunpoint by Dobbins who had been waiting for their arrival. Taking \$1,100 from Bryant, and 2 handguns, Bryant was ordered to get \$10,000 more in cash and bring it to Dobbins and Coward the next day or they would kill him. Bryant was told to place the money in the mailbox when he returned.

The victim was then released, at which time he contacted Romulus police and reported the incident, giving officers a description of the suspects. Officers Jamie Garcia and Rick St. Andre went to the scene where they arrested Dobbins. Coward was found at Van Buren Township home in the Parkwood Apartments.

Further investigation led to the search warrants being obtained for the residence and for a room in which Coward had been staying at the Metro Inn. Upon search, officers found numerous guns, money, narcotic paraphernalia and narcotics. In Dobbins's residence, officers discovered a makeshift gun range in the basement where weapons had been fired.

Both suspects face preliminary exam before Judge Oakley for fact finding. If Oakley finds fact to support the charges, Dobbins and Coward will be bound over the Wayne County courts for trial.

We want to hear from you

Tri-community members wishing to contact Michigan Community Newspapers with a Letter to the Editor or a soundoff can send them to Brenda Gracin c/o Michigan Community Newspapers, 35118 Park Street, Wayne MI 48184.

Residents who have issues they would like to address, concerns, or praise for community events or members, can do so through our Letters from our readers section

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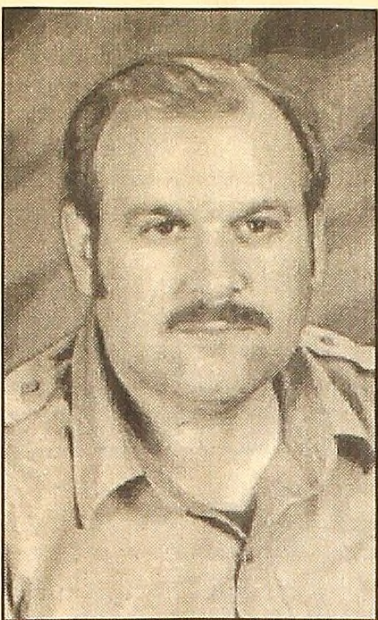
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NEWS FROM THE CITY OF WAYNE

Window on Wayne

Villagers were very frugal



Richard L. Story

Economic droughts, like rain droughts, were nothing new to the villagers of Wayne.

In bad times, they had to borrow from the banks; in good times, they invested their savings at the local banks.

And bankers were among the most respected citizens in the Village.

The first bank in the Village of Wayne started on October 1, 1880. The bank had a capital of \$25,000 and it was called The Wayne Savings Bank. Located on the north side of Michigan Avenue at Monroe Street, now Wayne Road, the bank was the cornerstone of development in our village. It also lent money to the farmers "until the crops came in."

The Village of Wayne had a population of 1,300 residents at this time, with the opening of the Prouty and Glass Carriage Company, which boasted a payroll for 125 men, and with the coming of the Detroit, Jackson and Ann Arbor Railroad in Wayne, the bank's capital soon increased to about \$50,000.

In 1929, the Wayne Savings Bank showed \$50,000 capital; \$100 surplus, and profits totaling \$18,664.

The Great Depression of 1929, however, hit the village hard and, of course, the Wayne Savings Bank suffered. Capital and profits both dissipated.

On June 18, 1931, Wayne County Circuit Court ordered that the Wayne Savings Bank be dissolved, because the bank apparently didn't meet the demands of the community.

A temporary receiver was named on July 23, 1933. Judge Joseph A. Monahan ordered Mr. Detweiler as the receiver for the next 10 years.

The Wayne Savings Bank came out of the Depression as World War II clouds gathered over Europe.

In 1953, after the Allies defeated Nazi Germany and Japan, and the Korean Conflict was being waged, the Wayne Savings Bank merged with the National Bank of Detroit, which operated in the same building but under a new name.

In 1953, a group of Wayne citizens banded together and with a capital of approximately \$450,000, started the Wayne Bank again. The citizens wanted a bank of their own. The bank managed to survive for many years before it, too, merged with a second bank - the present National City Bank, located at Michigan Avenue and Newborn.

Banks and bankers have always been an important part of life in the community.

Back then, and today,

Spratke is new D.A.R.E. officer

There's been a changing of the guards, of sorts, in the Wayne Drug Awareness Resistance Education, better known by the acronym D.A.R.E. program.

Police Officer Rob Puckett will hand over the program and its many responsibilities to colleague Ken Spratke. Spratke is not a new face in the department, but he is new to the D.A.R.E. program, a program that helps teach children and pupils how to say "no" to illegal drugs and their ill-effects.

Officer Spratke will visit fifth-grade students at all of the elementary schools in Wayne. He is a seven year veteran of the Wayne Police Department, and he also is accustomed to being a role model.

For the past three years Spratke has been assigned to the Wayne Memorial High School as the Liaison Officer.

While at Wayne Memorial, he served as an assistant basketball coach for the boys' team for one year and also assistant coach for the boys freshmen basketball team for two years.

Spratke is currently assisting Wayne coach Danny Kaminsky as a the girls' varsity basketball coach.

Officer Spratke attended special classes sponsored by the Michigan State Police Training Academy in Lansing on D.A.R.E. to familiarize himself with the curriculum and the challenges that he will face in the upcoming weeks.

Spratke will begin teaching D.A.R.E. classes this month.

The new D.A.R.E. officer is married with two children.

Commissioner Sullivan to greet families

Wayne County Commissioner John Sullivan and his family would like to meet you and your family in an informal, out-of-doors setting.

Sullivan, whose district includes the cities of Belleville, Canton, Huron, Sumpter, and Van Buren townships, along with the cities of Romulus and Wayne, is hosting a picnic on Friday, Sept. 20.

The picnic will be held between the hours of 5 to 7 p.m. in Goudy Park, located on Wayne Road, behind the City Hall Complex, just north of Michigan Avenue.

"I look forward to seeing and talking with constituents, friends, and making new friends," Commissioner Sullivan said.

"If you have a concern or want to discuss Wayne County developments with me, I am always available to do so."

Sullivan also urges families and their children to celebrate the last days of summer with him and his family.

There will be free hot dogs, soda-pop, water, and chips served. There is also a new playscape in the park which children may enjoy.

For more information, residents may contact Sullivan at his office at 313-224-0944.

The commissioner also has scheduled a series of coffee hours to discuss pertinent county affairs during the upcoming weeks.

Seniors are offered fall flu shots for free

With the following announcement, can winter be so far away?

The Wayne Senior Activity Center is accepting reservations from local seniors for flu shots.

Senior Center officials say that they will accept reservations by telephone beginning Monday, Sept. 23.

Shots will be administered, however, on Wed., Oct. 23.

Seniors are cautioned that they must have an appointment in order to receive their shots.

Medicare will be accepted, but seniors also must have their Medicare card with them.

Please contact the Senior Activities Center by dialing 721-7450 for an appointment and fee information.

Simons certified

Beverly A. Simons, Senior Accountant for the City of Wayne, is one of 35 members of the Association of Public Treasurers of the United States and Canada who successfully maintained their Certified Municipal Finance Administrator (CMFA) credential during the 2001-2002 year.

Simons was formally recognized for the achievement during the association's 37th annual conference staged in Vancouver, British Columbia.

SOUTHWESTERN TREASURES

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OBITUARIES

HARDESTY, GROVER MELVIN, 90, of Harrisville, MI passed away September 2. Mr. Hardesty was a member of the U.A.W. He also enjoyed hunting and fishing. Beloved husband of Martha M. (Hibbitts) Hardesty. Loving father of Gerald (Ann) Hardesty of Ossineke, Catherine Coler of Belleville, Michael (Carol) Hardesty of Stockbridge, and Carole (Randall) Davenport of Woodbury, TN. Dear brother of Hilda Patton of Sedgewickville, MO. Also survived by fourteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. Preceded in death by his parents Madison and Maggie (Wood) Hardesty; his son Ronald (Jeannette) Hardesty; his brothers Marvin and John Hardesty; his sisters Ola Bayless, Ada Hardesty, and Edna Snowdell; and his son-in-law Roger Coler. Funeral services were held at David C. Brown Funeral Home with Pastor Robert J. White officiating. Interment followed at Washtenong Memorial Park Cemetery in Ann Arbor. Memorial contributions can be made in his honor to the

Alzheimer's Association.

JOHNSON, MARIE ELIZABETH, 69, of Wayne, passed away September 13. Mrs. Johnson was a member of the Wayne Democratic Club. Loving wife of Clifford Johnson. Beloved mother of Ann Fick, Mary (Robert) Zachow, Clifford (Mary) Johnson Jr., Clarence (Jackie) Johnson, and Rose (Rick) Cardial. Dearest sister of Walter Fick and the late Clarence Fick. Also survived by thirteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at Uht Funeral Home with Brother Randy Bone officiating. Interment followed at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

LEWIS, GOLDIE L., 74, of Belleville, passed away September 2. Mrs. Lewis enjoyed gardening and playing with her grandchildren. Beloved wife of the late Roy P. Lewis, who passed away in June 1990. Loved mother of Carol M. Barton of Belleville; Elaine Reinhard of Pinellas Park, FL; and Kenneth R. Lewis of St. Petersburg, FL.

Dear daughter of the late Cecil and Magdeline (Cosby) Owens. Dear sister of Beulah Wyatt of Lincoln Park, James Owen of Ecorse, Sara Toombs of Lincoln Park, and Louise Covert of Tawas, and the late Julius Owen. Also survived by five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Funeral services were held at David C. Brown Funeral Home. Interment followed at Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti. Memorial contributions can be made in her honor to the American Heart Association.

MEYERS, JUDITH ANN, 66, passed away September 14. Beloved wife for over 46 years to Howard Meyers. Dearest mother of Martin G. Meyers, Bethann (Michael) Meyers-Hardesty, and the late David J. Meyers. Dearest grandmother of Martin G. Meyers, Christopher Paul Meyers, and Merissa G. Meyers. Dear sister of Mary Lou White, Fred Etherington, and Sue McKinley. Funeral services were held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Wayne with Father Jack Baker officiating. Cremation rites have been accorded. Harry J. Will

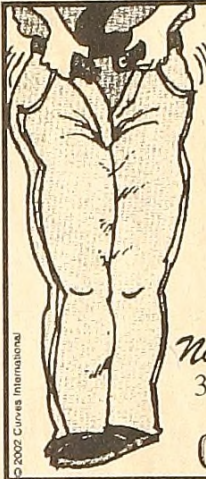
Funeral Home in Wayne made arrangements.

POSEGAY, ROSE M., 92, of Alba, passed away September 12 at Meadowbrook Medical Care Facility in Bellaire, Michigan. A funeral mass was held September 16 at St. Anthony Catholic Church in Mancelona with Father R. Dale Magoon officiating. Interment followed at the Star Township Cemetery in Alba. She was born on August 10, 1910 in Detroit, the daughter of Joseph and Rose (Bolgar) Peters. On November 9, 1929 in Detroit, she married John Posegay. He passed away on September 23, 1969. She moved to Alba that same year. She was involved in the local Ladies Club and other community activities. She called bingo at the Alba Sportsman's Club, volunteered to transport people to and from a variety of appointments for the Senior Center, and she also delivered for Meals on Wheels. She had donated her crafts and her time in the gift shop at the Meadowbrook Medical Care Facility in Bellaire. She enjoyed crochet-

ing, gardening, and crossword puzzles. She is survived by her children Joel N. (Mary) Posegay of Belleville, James F. (Joanne) Posegay of Belleville, Rose Marie (Pierre) Laginess of New Boston, Susan Keene of Fredric, and Carol (Dennis) Sturtz of Belleville; twenty grandchildren; forty great-grandchildren; and two sisters Julia Klusevek and Theresa Vereb both of Houghton Lake. She is preceded in death by her parents; her son John S. Posegay in 1989; her sister Margaret Demeter; and one brother Joseph Peters. Funeral arrangements were made by Penzien Funeral Home in Mancelona.


Memorials can be made in her honor to the Meadowbrook Medical Care Facility or St. Anthony Mass cards.

SHUMAKER, RALPH L., 85, of Ormond Beach, FL (formerly of Taylor, MI), passed away September 7. Beloved husband of Rozella. Dearest father of Carl (Linda), Janet (George) Lomas, and Wilber (Kay). Also survived by fifteen grandchildren, twenty-five great-grandchildren, and four great great-grandchildren. Funeral survives were held at Harry J. Will Funeral Home in Wayne. Interment followed at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.



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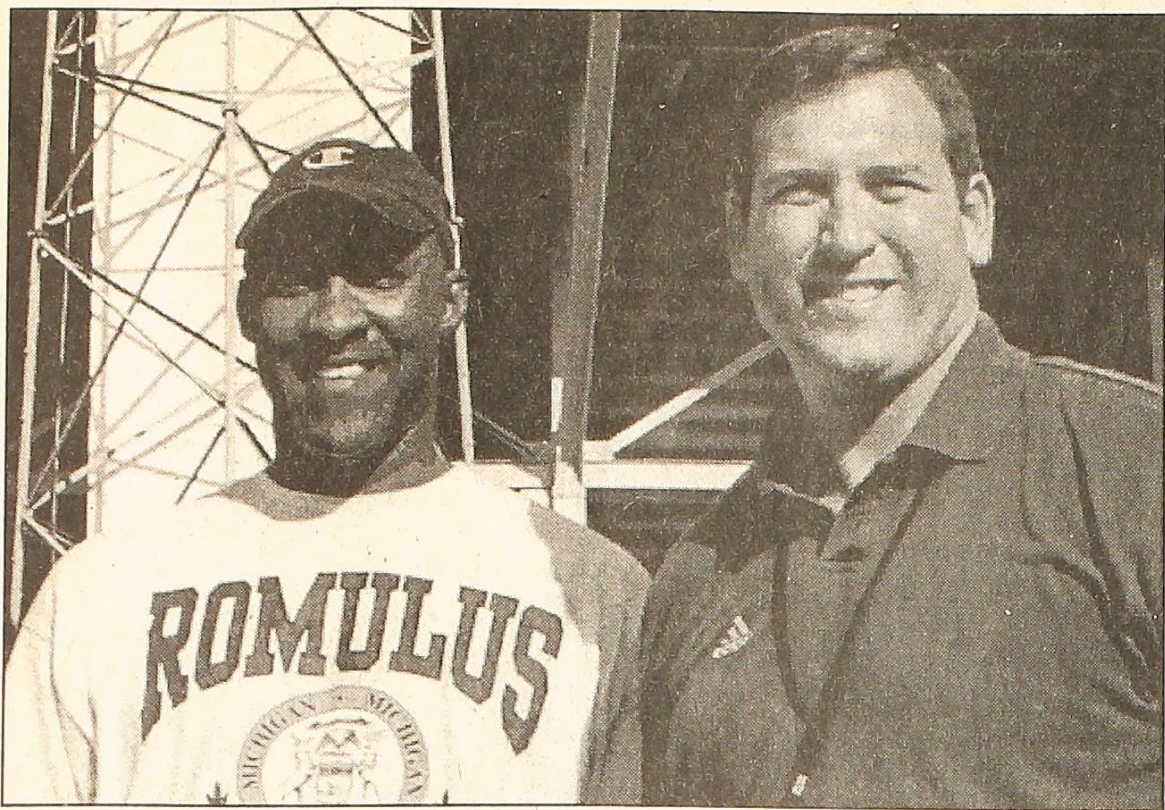
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NEWS FROM THE CITY OF ROMULUS



Eastern Michigan University Assistant Athletic Director Matt Lucas welcomes Romulus Mayor Pro Tem Randy Gear to the 2nd annual Romulus Day celebration, Sept 7, at the EMU-Toledo football game. Also attending, Romulus football fans pictured below: Amanda Coper, Je'Om Lee, Jeriesha Lee, Crystal Cambell, Andrea Redding, Melissa Redding. Fans were able to enjoy a day centered around former Romulus football players. Anyone wearing something with a Romulus logo on it received 50% off at the gate on their admission ticket, and the first 2,000 people through the gates received EMU Football tee shirts.



Romulus Parks and Rec to offer classes

The Romulus Parks and Recreation Department will offer several classes this fall for kids. The classes will be as follows: Dance, boys and girls; September 9 through May 7, classes run in 8 week sessions. Preschool will consist of 3-5 year olds, dance club will be 6-12 years old, and competitive will be 6-12 years old. The classes will meet Mondays at Romulus High School, beginning at 5:00 p.m., Wednesdays at the

Coleman Center beginning at 1:30 p.m., and Wednesdays at the Recreation Center beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Karate classes will begin September 9 and end November 13. Ages 7 years through adult can register. They will be held at the Romulus High School wrestling room on Mondays and Wednesdays beginning at 6:30 p.m. for beginners, 7:30 p.m. for intermediates, and

8:30 p.m. for advanced students.

After school soccer will begin on September 17, ending November 7. Eligible ages are third through sixth grade. Games will be held at various Romulus elementary schools on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 p.m. until 5:00 p.m.

For additional information, including time and costs, please contact the Romulus Recreation Department at (734) 942-6852.

Registry reopened by Federal Appeals Court

By BRENDA GRACIN
MCN Staff Writer

In light of a rash of recent child abductions across the nation, Michigan parents are relieved that a federal appeals court has declared Michigan's sexual offender registry reopened as of last Wednesday. The registry will remain open while a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of its publication waits to be heard.

In June, Victoria Roberts, Judge of the U.S. District Court, ordered the registry unconstitutional, citing that the state must determine which sex offender is a public threat before putting his or her name in the registry. Upon issuing her order the registry was closed down.

Created in 1994, the list is used by local and state police departments to keep track of those convicted of sexually oriented crimes. Those on the list are required by law to notify police of their addresses for 25 years on a quarterly basis. It can be viewed by anyone online who wants to know whether anyone convicted is living in his or her area. The list hailed by Michigan

parents, Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, and all Michigan police departments, can alert parents as to the whereabouts of potential sexual abusers.

Sgt. Jeffrey Keefer of the Romulus police department is gratified to see the registry up and running again. Romulus lists 62 people convicted of sexual misconduct or abuse in the registry. "The list should never have been removed," said Keefer in a telephone interview, "I'm very pleased it is being reinstated so families can protect their children and loved ones. I have a four year old son and would want the opportunity to be able to know who could potentially harm him."

The Romulus list consists of anyone who has been convicted of CSC crimes. CSC1 and 3 involves rape, 2 involves sexual contact with a victim under 13, and 14, and 4 as groping or contact. All can involve children under 13 depending on activity involved.

Critics of the list, including Kary Moss of the ACLU believe that the list does not differentiate between a predator of children and someone who is not a threat to society. "This

list can cause suicide, to mob actions, to people being branded as pedophiles when they are not," said Moss.

However, Granholm cites it as a victory for Michigan parents. "When every news broadcast seems to bring with it an update on a child who has been abducted and sexually abused, this ruling gives back to parents an important tool for protecting their own families and their own peace of mind," she said.

Lt. Dan Snyder of the Romulus PD is happy to have the registry opened again. "I believe it is a good resource for law enforcement and for parents," he said.

Daniel Fullmer of Royal Oak filed the lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the registry after he was fired from his job as a state corrections officer for having consensual sex with an inmate. Fullmer states that the registry makes no distinction between those who are a public threat and those who are not. By late Wednesday afternoon of the ruling, state police had the registry back up and running.

Unmistakably
**Robertson
Brothers...**



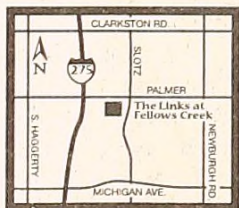
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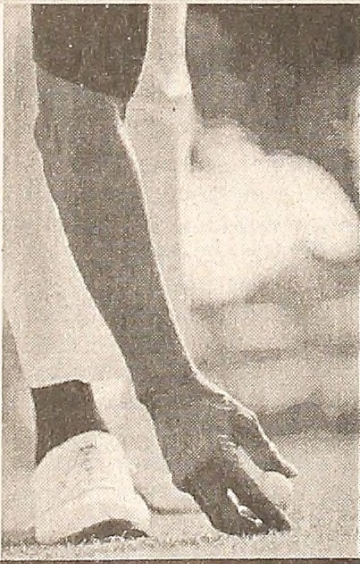
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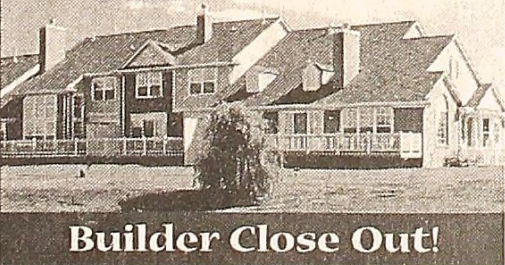
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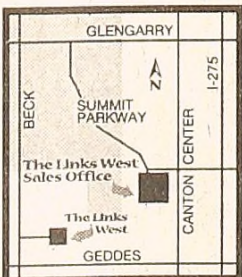
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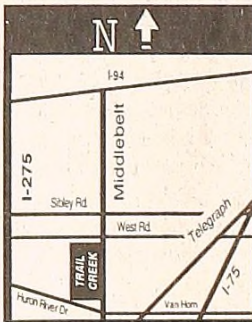
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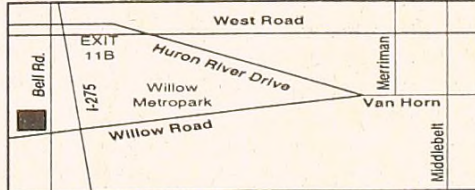


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All of us should report suspicious activities

It was nice to see so many Western Wayne communities sponsor solemn ceremonies recognizing our fallen heroes from a year ago. The tragedy of September 11, 2001, will indelibly be inked in our minds.

That is why we all need to do our part to make sure it never happens again. The waitress in Calhoun, Georgia, was doing her part when she reported a conversation she overheard when three Arabs stopped there for breakfast on their way to Miami. Knowing they were getting furtive glances, the three now say they were only "goofing" with the waitress when they talked about bombing Miami.

In my opinion, the waitress should be congratulated for taking the information to the authorities. Many of us would have ignored it.

Maybe that's what my friend should have done when they reported suspicious activity near Metro Airport. My friend had taken his grandson to Vining Road to watch jet airliners land and take off. While viewing the airplane activity they saw two suspicious characters feverishly snapping photos of the airport and surrounding grounds.

Upon returning home, my friend decided to contact the authorities. Rather than making him feel good, they made him stupid for reporting such a minor incident. I don't think that is the message we want to send to our citizens.

After all, those that are paid to protect us have a lot of learning to do. For instance, I was never too keen on the recently implemented plan to fire private contractors providing security at airports, and in

their place, utilizing the federal government to

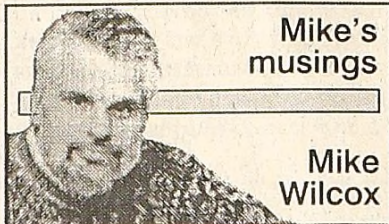
manage security. Since when have the feds done anything better than private contractors?

USA TODAY reports that the Transportation Security Administration is so beset with problems that 80 federal air marshals have already quit, and others are considering a class-action lawsuit over working conditions that they fear put travelers at risk.

Those same security guards that once worked for Argonbright and other maligned security companies have been hired by the federal government. Now they make more money and work less.

And the middlemen — the private companies that actually hire the screeners for the government, have nearly doubled their rates for providing screeners. In one instance it was found that a private company was billing the feds for absent employees and work that was never completed.

Why is this going on? Because companies know they can slicker the government a lot easier than private airlines. They know the feds need their services, and since they are working with taxpayers' monies, that they will be willing to pay a lot more for the services. I don't believe any of us envisioned this kind of fiscal irresponsibility when it was determined the feds would take over airport security.



Mike's musings

Mike Wilcox



Fiekens' court orders interfere with nature

If I had a dart board, I would rotate the photos.

While the bull's eye obviously would be reserved for Osama bin Laden, US Circuit Court Judge John Fiekens would get plenty of needle time.

Fiekens entered the local scene after the U.S. Environment Protection Agency sued every community in the Rouge River Watershed under the federal Clean Water Act in 1977.

From his federal bench, the unelected federal judge began ordering the communities to do work tens of millions of dollars of work to clean the Rouge and Detroit river.

Communities have been forced to pay millions to separate their sewage and storm-water sewers and have been charged millions more in fees to help Detroit fix its crumbling sewage treatment plant.

In response to Fiekens' orders, communities have reacted differently. Westland couldn't volunteer fast enough to sign on to his program.

Under former mayor Bob Thomas, the city became the first municipality to apply for a Rouge River water quality permit in hopes of avoiding for as long as possible any more of Fiekens' multi-million-dollar work orders.

In contrast, Canton separated itself from Detroit's sewage treatment plant, sending its sewage to the Ypsilanti Community Utility Authority treatment plant in Ypsilanti Town-

ship, where Fiekens had not yet interfered.

But no matter what they did, Fiekens' orders usurped local control and burdened residents with higher taxes and water rates.

But wasn't suffering and paying for 28 years of Fiekens' orders worth it to clean up the Rouge?

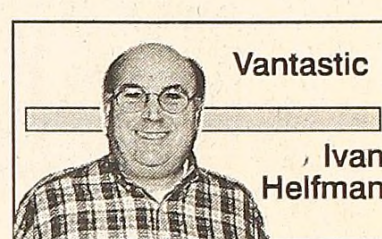
Before you answer that question, buy some bait and try to catch a native trout in the Rouge. If the water has been restored, then native fish will flourish. If you can't, then maybe you will understand why America's Founding Fathers left lawmaking in the hands of elected legislatures.

Of course, I asked a rhetorical question. You and I both know that Fiekens' orders fail the fishing test because he not only ignored the real cause of river pollution, he increased it.

The main cause, of course, was suburban development's interference with nature's water cycle. As any ecology book will tell you, vegetation filters and cleans rain water of pollutants as the water flows down to aquifers. Eventually the aquifers supply clean water to wells, springs, and rivers.

Suburban development, with its preference for single-story malls, wide asphalt roads, and large asphalt parking lots, eats up the plants and trees.

Acting without the benefit of debate, Fiekens mandated plans that substituted costly manmade sys-



Vantastic

Ivan Helfman

tems for the natural water cycle resulting in an expensive dirty water plan.

Had we followed the Constitution and relied on legislatures like Wisconsin did, we could have come up with a clean water plan.

Relying on public input and expert testimony tempered by public debate, Wisconsin created a plan that tries to restore the water cycle instead of mistakenly shrinking them in accordance with a federal judge's hunches.

In Wisconsin, large farms, highways, developments, and golf courses will now have to include planted buffer areas.

New developments will be clustered and contain taller buildings to allow room for grass and plants.

Nature's water cycle will be allowed to work. Michigan can do the same if the federal government allows our Constitution to work by sending Fiekens packing.

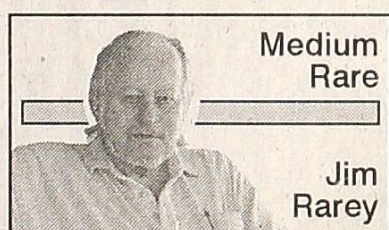
Meanwhile, I'll have to content myself with my imaginary dart board.

Michigan drivers don't signal turns

When this writer moved to the Detroit area from Southern California in 1976, it quickly became obvious that Michigan drivers were different from California drivers in at least two respects.

I first noticed this on the freeways. In California when a car is off to the side of the roadbed, drivers will speed by if there is a least a foot of clearance without slowing down at all.

On Detroit freeways when a car is off to the side, it seems that everyone wants to slow to a crawl, presumably to see if anyone they know is in the car (or maybe it's just plain curiosity). In any event, during rush hour this phenomenon causes traffic jams and occasionally a rear end accident. At times it seems there must be a serious accident ahead that turns out to be only a car with a flat tire when one finally gets to the cause of the slowdown.



Medium Rare

Jim Rarey

On surface streets, one of the aggravating habits of too many Michigan drivers is the use (or more correctly the nonuse) of turn signals to indicate when a left or right turn is going to be made (or a lane change on the freeway).

After being trapped, for the umpteenth time, behind a driver at a traffic light who either never used his turn indicator to make a left turn or didn't turn in on until the light turned green, this writer decided to make an informal survey of the extent of this infuriating practice.

Over a period of one week, a count was kept of how many cars

used or did not use turn indicators when making a turn. Although it was expected to be much higher, about 35 percent of the drivers either did not use the turn indicators at all or did not activate them until starting to make the turn.

The problem causes more than just aggravation. Some accidents at intersections happen because a driver did not warn oncoming traffic with his turn indicator that he was going to make a left turn. This writer has seen several accident scenes where this was the cause.

It's almost enough to suggest we go back to hand signals. However, that has its own problems. In some cases the only thing that can be determined when a driver sticks his or her arm out the window is that the window is down.

Jim Rarey can be reached at (734) 942-7667 or E-mail to jim-rarey@comcast.net.

Blues band to play at Pub

I have been wanting to write about the Wayne Road Pub, on Wayne Road and Palmer in Westland, formerly Reiser's, and the Golden Coin before that.

Write about how Bill Reiser sold the bar and moved to Las Vegas. Mention how the new owner Ron and his wife, Kim, have fixed the place up, worked on the lunch and dinner menus, added a pool table, and found a friendly crew to help run the place.

The Pub is now promoting live bands, not only every Tuesday, but now on the weekends.

Look for some of the area's best blues bands, including Jimmy Baker and the Soundcasters, to be performing at the pub.

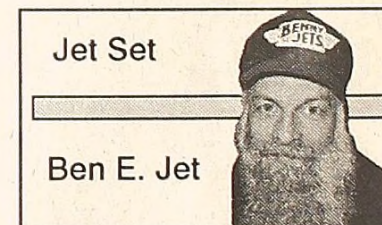
I have many fond memories of the pub. Not only have I performed there for close to 15 years, I was playing there the night my daughter was born 12 years ago.

I still have the column Mike

Wilcox wrote about the goldfish swallowing contest we had there. The time Don Shane did his Dare Don Channel 7 TV show there, and he, WCSX radio's Karen Sevelle, and I ended up on the front page of the Detroit News.

So just when you start feeling like you have seen it all, Miss Michigan walks in. Yep, last Tuesday Tricia Alexander, Miss Michigan 2002, walks into the Wayne Road Pub as part of a TCNN Global TV Network special. Complete with TV cameras, photographers, several members of the press, and many local celebrities, including Karyn the bartender, Christine Yon, Fred Lorenz, Robert Bruce, Jim Harper, Chuck from the Incurables, and the guys from Man-go Pie, Ms. Alexander interviewed me for the show.

She asked my thoughts on 9-11, and then introduced me to the Calico Girls, who also have a show on the TCNN Network.



Jet Set

Ben E. Jet

The Calico Girls posed for pictures, and signed autographs. Dressed in high boots and short leather miniskirts, the girls could be another column by themselves.

I want to tell you I found it extremely odd that my birthday falls on 9-11 (I was born on Sept. 11, 1955), and that the winning number in the three-digit New York Lotto was 911 on 9-11. That was too weird for even this column.

Call Ben E. Jet at (313) 730-1627, surf to Benny and the Jet's Web site at WWW.BENNYANDTHEJETS.COM, or listen to Ben E. Jet with Dr. Do-Wop on Wednesdays, 5-7 p.m., on WPON, 1460 AM.

SOUND OFF EXTRA — (734) 729-4000 X 206

Caller wonders if Wayne's cops and firefighters follow road rules

I would like to know why the city of Wayne Police and Fire departments seem to not have to abide by the same laws that citizens do?

Within the several past months I notice Wayne police vehicles not using turn signals and rolling through stop signs. They are not on a call. Not just one or two times, I have observed this continually. It seems to be their protocol.

Secondly I always notice similar practices by Wayne fire department vehicles. On many occasions I see them rolling through stop signs. Specifically the pickup truck number 206. On Saturday, Sept. 7, at about 8:45 a.m., I went grocery shopping at Farmer Jack's in Wayne.

Parked in the fire lane was vehicle 206. Was it there on business? No, the driver was grocery shopping.

During Wheelfest I observed vehicle 206 parked left wheels to curb at a firefighter's house in Wayne. I see 206 not even attempting to stop for the stop sign in Farmer Jack's parking lot.

It's very annoying to see this. What kind of example do these people present to citizens? A very poor one. One with a double standard.

Wayne police would be quick to present someone else with a citation if they see a citizen practicing their driving procedures. Perhaps the Wayne police and fire chiefs should spend some time on drivers education for their employees and less time gathering support for new fire and police stations and other wishes.

Different Westlanders wanted to speak at government meetings

It is time that more Westland citizens show up at more meetings around the city instead of the same people.

Don't get me wrong, we appreciate the efforts of so many people, but we need new faces sitting, listening and asking questions.

We have ethic committee meetings, zoning board and planning commission meetings. Don't forget the study sessions and various board meetings are all open to the public. And one of the best tickets in town I am told is the sanitation meetings the first Thursday of every month over in Dearborn Heights.

If you want to hear for yourself

just a sampling of the things that have been said about that place, go listen and ask questions.

Are council members 'water connoisseurs' or tap-water aficionados?

The reason why Westland's council members have not told Westland City Halls' water connoisseurs to bring their own designer water to work ["Five years later, Westland taxpayers still pay for city workers' bottled Absopure," Sept. 12 Sound Off] is because many of the council members drink Absopure too.

Next time you go to a meeting, pay attention to what the council members drink, but don't hold your breath waiting for a city council member to drink tap water.

See **SOUND OFF**, page A-8



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LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Patterson
sewer bond
proposal
slammed

To the editor:

Hello, My name is Alfred Brock. I am writing concerning the upcoming election in which Bruce Patterson is running for 7th District State Senator.

I believe that this is a cause for concern because it is my opinion that Mr. Patterson is not dealing with the same set of morals and obligations to which you and I subscribe.

His behavior towards our neighbors in Romulus is my chief cause of concern, followed closely by an intense interest in the final disposition of millions of dollars of state funds, our tax money. Forward this to whomever you care to.

Mr. Patterson recently stated that Mr. Stewart — the state rep who charged him with assault — is living in a dream world or words to that effect.

Mr. Patterson's contact with the dream world is what I am writing to you about. Recently he was in the newspaper as stating that he hopes to save lakes and rivers. The way he is planning on doing this is by selling long-term bonds to raise money to replace or build sewers.

Bruce Patterson reportedly lives on Fellows Creek, which is not really a creek anymore, more like a raceway ditch that drains backyards and golf courses. From what I have seen in many parts of the creek, manicured grass grows right down into the bed. There is no means for containment of the heavy use of pesticides, herbicides, and insecticides that are sprayed both on private lands and on public lands in amazing quantities.

Mr. Patterson wants to pawn off bonds that will be secured by people all over the state to build and repair sewers in places like Canton, a charter township.

Small communities in the Upper Peninsula as well as poor communities right here in Southeast Michigan will be guaranteeing free money to cash-rich communities. The charter township system is flawed, allowing state money to flow into arbitrarily created organizations without guarantee of repayment or even guarantee that they will be used the way they are supposed to be. Just recently — if memory serves me correctly — Mr. Patterson, along with Canton Charter Township Supervisor Tom Yack, announced that they had taken \$2 million from the state coffers to pay for paving Lotz Road. The road is hardly a half-mile long — yet they took \$2 million. That's not all — they didn't pave it — they have put the money in some bank, saying they may pave it next year. That money will generate about \$40,000 in interest. Where is that interest going? Ask Mr. Patterson.

As for cleaning up the local water system and being concerned about rivers and lakes, Mr. Patterson should return from his dreamland and note that local governments and Indian tribes will be given grants by the federal government from money that have already been made available. It appears to me that Mr. Patterson is going to sell bonds to cover work that is already going to be covered by our federal tax dollars. That is double taxation and taxation without representation for citizens that will not gain any benefit from the collected money.

Of course, in reality we can't even be sure the money that Patterson gets his hands will even go to the items promised — or dreamed of, in this case.

There is one jarring instance of the fantasy world of Mr. Patterson with our real and tangible one, that is the State of Michigan House vote on Senate Bill number 364.

Section 1201 states, "Funds appropriated in section 113 shall not be used to review or grant a permit for a facility that will operate a multisource commercial hazardous waste disposal well that could result in the subsurface contamination of or by hazardous substances on or to the lands owned by others."

What this is referring to is a bill

See **PATTERSON**, page A-8

Motorist disses reckless-driving cop

To the editor:

In light of all the media attention given to the recent tragedy of a motorist striking a construction worker, and the proposed legal changes to charge motorists for failing to merge where posted, I feel compelled to share this story.

As I was traveling today, northbound on the I-275 highway, approaching the construction zone near Mount Morris, at approximate-

ly 1:20 p.m., there were several vehicles trying to prevent the horrendous line of cars still in the left lane from cutting in at the last moment.

Imagine my surprise when, in the left lane, even though the closure was posted for two miles, right up at the point of no return, was no other than a squad car from the Mount Morris Police Department. No lights, no flashers, no turn signal, just the obligatory forced merge at the last moment.

He did not exit, nor was he switching lanes as if in a hurry. Due to traffic — and the fact I wished to obey the sign instructing drivers not to change lanes — I regrettably could not obtain his car number, or assuredly I would have phoned in my displeasure.

First I thought, "Great, he's gonna catch these people for endangering everyone on the road," but, to my dismay and disbelief, he was no better than any of the oth-

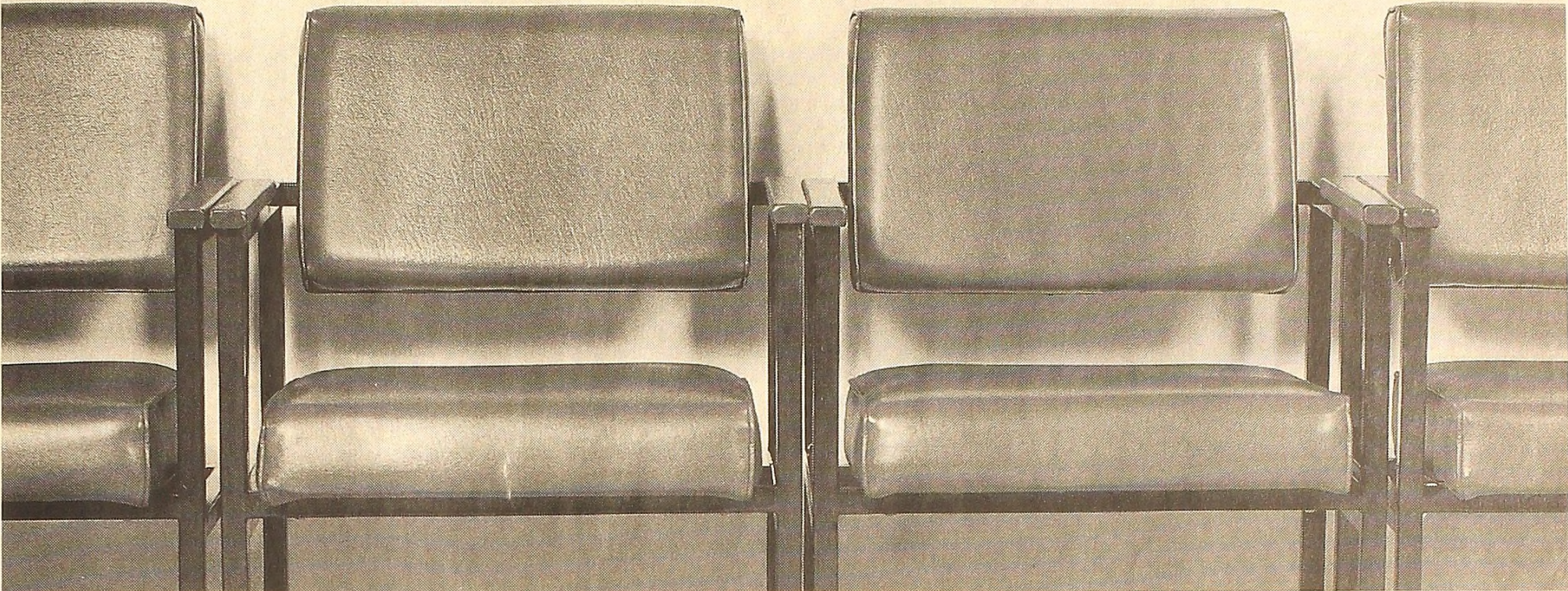
ers. How, may I ask, can law enforcement expect drivers to respect the law when they so often blatantly ignore it themselves?

It is my hope in writing this letter that those in supervisory positions (and the elected leaders) of Mount Morris will investigate this matter to the extent possible, and perhaps make their officers aware of the importance of setting the example by following safe travel practices. Certainly, they should be at

the least concerned about a vehicle emblazoned with their towns' name being driven in such a fashion.

I also hope, by forwarding this correspondence to the press, and to AAA, that more drivers will pay attention to these types of behaviors and report them.

Sincerely,
Robert W. McLachlan
Romulus



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LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Double standard applied when councilwoman attacked

To the editor:

I wasn't going to comment on what happened at the study session on the former Cooper school property, but the more I thought of it I decided someone needed to. This is in regards to the personal attacks on Westland Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt.

There is too much of a 'double standard' in this city. I remember a comment to a citizen at a council meeting by the council president that he would not tolerate personal attacks on anyone. Does that mean only if their name is not Cheryl Graunstadt?

She did not deserve the attack on her. Shame on you council president for not putting a stop to it. Do you think people in this city are stupid and do not know what is happening here?

If you go back to the early days of Cooper school, who has more of a right to speak on it than Mrs. Graunstadt? We in the city elected her by an overwhelming majority because we knew she had a mind of her own and that she would vote her conscience, not go along with everyone else because she would be ostracized for it.

Cheryl, I have the utmost respect for you and the people who put you where you are at do too. Please don't let these people get you down.

I would hope the council president will think about how he is being observed in this city and change his attitude. Hang in there Cheryl and rah for you!

Georgia A. Becker
Westland

Patterson

continued from page A-7

that was used to collect money for the Department of Environmental Quality and its operations. Specifically, this section is in opposition to the permitting of Hazardous Waste Wells, a hole is drilled into the ground and hazardous waste, such as hydrochloric acid, naphthalene, benzene, hydrogen peroxide, poisonous metallic salts and many, many other items are pumped into the ground.

I think the main scientific premise behind that behavior is if you can't see it, it can't harm you. Of course, in the real world this material does cause harm, ground settlement, water pollution and other problems — like loss of home values.

The reason this section was put in the bill was to ensure that a hazardous waste well in Romulus, in the center of a heavily populated area, very close to Detroit Metro Airport, I-275, the east-west corridor of the railway serving Detroit and Chicago, and abutting the natural gas operations of Sunoco and the airline fuel storage depots of several airline fuel companies would not be allowed to be permitted.

One of the executives at the company responsible for this well — Environmental Disposal Systems (ha-ha) — used to be high level director at the Department of Environmental Quality. Mr. Patterson voted "no" on this section, deciding for the people of Romulus (a neighbor city) that they would have to live with the hazardous waste being trucked through their city, exposing them and their children to dangers that Mr. Patterson will never have to face.

That's how Mr. Patterson behaves towards his neighbors in the real world.

I believe also that Mr. Patterson and his wife ran against each other in the Republican primary for who gets to go to the convention. I suppose that way they secured a position at the convention and wouldn't miss all the free food.

Mr. Patterson is currently a state representative. I believe he has reached his term limit and must now vacate his position in the State House of Representatives. His natural inclination appears to be to stay in state government — his past experience, in my opinion, making him little use in the private sector, where he would have to work for a living. [Patterson is a lawyer — Ed.]

He was recently involved in what has been described as a fracas with Rep. John Stewart. Apparently the two of them don't get along together, and the manner in which they solve their differences is by verbal abuse.

The story goes that Mr. Patterson confronted Mr. Stewart in a parking lot after a meeting in Garden City. I read in the Detroit News that Patterson yelled, "You want a piece of me?" Stewart let loose with an aria to drown him out.

Stewart alleged in a police report that Patterson followed him to the parking lot shouting taunts. Stewart said he tried to get in his car, but Patterson slammed the door, leaving at least one red mark. Mr. Patterson claims these allegations are all lies.

The charges have been dropped, as there was no eyewitnesses.

Mr. Stewart stated, "I've lost a little faith in the system. I literally can't just get pushed around physically."

Mr. Patterson, a lawyer, is threatening to continue on with a suit alleging defamation of character and he indicated that he was going to sue several other people, but he didn't say who they were. He has done quite a lot for himself, but from what I can see he has done nothing for the people of Canton and has potentially harmed our neighbors in Romulus. Their property values are being assaulted.

A vote for Mr. Patterson is a vote for failure.

Sincerely,
Alfred Brock
Canton

Sound Off

continued from page A-6

State fire marshal may be needed to stop kids with illegal fireworks

The entire civilization as we know it today revolves around the "kids of society." The same rotten kids that have no respect for anyone or anything.

My rant here is specific to illegal fireworks. The kids burn them off in the backyard (mind you, we haven't seen a drop of rain for weeks — and the grass is brown, in addition the homes in the neighborhood are old and can burn down to the ground in a second), but the parents continue to amuse their offspring by handing them the fireworks, then watching them run frantically away from the much-awaited explosion.

Ignorance doesn't fall far from the tree. I've complained numerous times to the Westland police department — they must have better things to do because not once have I seen a squad car even approach the street they live on to offer a warning or a ticket.

The state of Michigan has a law against illegal fireworks. In case you are not aware, anything that leaves the ground or has a loud bang is considered illegal by the State of Michigan.

One of these days, these kids are going to end up in the hospital with a finger blown off or worse — maybe deaf or blind. If the Westland police cannot control the happenings in this city, perhaps the state fire marshal should be involved.

Plymouth-Canton school board 'slipped in a fast one' into Ryan's goals

I was happy to see the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education quickly set interim Superintendent Jim Ryan's goals. Happy, that is, until I read the fine print — where the board slipped in a fast one.

Instead of mandating changes at the high school campus, the board has only set "guiding principles." While the previous board required the superintendent to try to keep students in their home schools, the new board has only suggested it. As a result, students continue to travel between the different schools.

Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt advised to be her own person

It's nice that Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt plays to the crowd at every council meeting. What about all the other people that voted for her, myself included?

Cheryl, be your own person. Being the dissident on everything the troublemakers want is not going to help your political career. Politicians need to be diplomats and to be able to build coalitions. I don't see you doing either.

Also, there is more than one issue. You know a lot about the incinerator, but what about the rest of the issues? Or has Richard LeBlanc not got around teaching you.

Puppet Master come to Westland and fix the broken council puppets

Hey Mr. Puppet Master [former councilman Richard LeBlanc], you need to come to Westland council meetings and check out some strings — I think they may be broken.

A couple of the puppets just slump over to one side when idle. There's a couple puppets that needs to have their jaws oiled up and tightened because they just flap up and down and make a lot of noise. One puppet likes to get oiled.

Also, can we trade in some Pinocchio puppets for some other kinds? We can deal with one, but we got some extras and that's not very fun when you know what they're all going to do.

We have a couple that don't want "new strings," they want more money instead. What does a puppet need that for? What can we get for a used "Coo-Coo Puppet"? It must have been dropped once because its face opens up at the end of every five minutes no matter what's going on, and although we want to tap on it when this happens, we can't reach it.

Oh, I'm sorry to bother you. The warranties on some of these says "do it yourself," and the expiration date will be here long before you will anyway. Sincerely, Edward Scissorhands.

Graunstadt is 'proving to be a wonderful representative of the citizens

From where I sit, we need two

ladies to manage the mayor's job, and yet when we watch the council team of seven, it is obvious that one lady out runs the rest of the councilmen time and time again.

She is so outspoken on the people's behalf above all else, that I am amazed at how she can stand the pressure placed on her to go along with the get-along gang.

For a beginner, Cheryl, you are proving to be a wonderful representative of the citizens of Westland. You got the most votes and we all know why. Don't let anybody intimidate you.

'Blonde' commissioner blasted for supposedly strutting around city hall

If there was ever a person who strutted around Westland City Hall, it is that blonde who attacked Councilwoman Graunstadt. She thinks she is hot stuff and quite the know-it-all sitting on the planning commission.

Name one thing she has been outspoken on?

We are not fooled when we see who associates with who on council. Sorry, but more than your slip is showing — it's your ego.

Angela Todd only writes about one topic — 'Westland's flaws'

It's good that you publish readers' letters to provide different perspectives, but why do you continue to publish letters from Angela Frances Todd, who only has one perspective?

She writes mainly about one thing — Westland's supposed flaws.

I'm sure Westland has many letter writers with sunnier outlooks and fresher perspectives than Ms. Todd. Please give them a chance to write share their perspectives too.

Seems more like mayor had promised to drive businesses out of city

What happened to all the new business that Westland Mayor Sandra Cicirelli had promised in her campaign?

The only thing my eyes are seeing is business after business leaving. Too many broken promises.



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NEWS FROM THE CITY OF INKSTER

‘Concrete mountain’ draws city council, public’s ire

Company official says they are not accepting anymore concrete

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

A ‘mysterious mountain’ whose peak is composed of rock and cement, reaches above the tree tops that hide it from the casual viewer or driver on Michigan Avenue east, but has drawn the attention of members of the city council. A few months ago, when she was able to

make the meetings, councilwoman Naomi James warned that if the pile of concrete went unchecked, it would become an eyesore. The eyesore that James, who is now battling cancer, was alluding to was construction concrete that the Ernst Concrete Company, 29001 Michigan Avenue, hauls from construction sites, crushes it, and resells.

According to one city official,

there has not been enough demand for the used concrete and the pile has grown where it is visual to the public.

“But they (Ernst Concrete) have told us that they will not accept any more concrete at their Michigan Avenue plant,” said the official, who asked not to be identified.

At the Wednesday, Sept. 11, council orientation meeting, council

was informed by City Manager Robert Gordon that Ernst Corporation has submitted an offer to purchase the adjoining property to its facility. The property is immediately to the east of the concrete-manufacturing company.

The now vacant land is where the adult film house, Melody Theater, once stood. The movie house has been demolished.

Before City Attorney Milton Spokojny cautioned the administration that the discussion of the sale of property should go behind closed doors, council members expressed concerns about the landscape and the trees in the area.

Asked whether Ernst would protect the many trees that line the border of the two properties, Gordon said that company officials in-

formed him that they would enhance the property and protect the environment.

In some communities, councils have adopted ordinances that prohibit the cutting down of trees without first obtaining permission from the legislative body. If approved, a tree also would have to be planted in the area where one was removed.

New attorney magistrate proposed

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

The 22nd District Court may soon get an attorney magistrate.

Mayor and city council discussed a recommendation submitted by Judge Sylvia James to hire Jeffrey Bowdich as an attorney magistrate to help expedite cases that come before the 22nd District. The court does have a court administrator on

staff, but he doesn't have the authority to hear cases brought before the bench.

City Attorney Milton Spokojny told mayor and council Wednesday night that “an attorney magistrate may sign search warrants, try certain cases, and also serve as judge in the absence of the presiding judge, again on certain cases.

“If this is approved, it would free

her (Judge James) up.”

Judge James has served as the 22nd District Court Judge for the past 15 years.

The position would not be funded by the state, according to City Manager Robert Gordon.

“The salary is in the \$60,000 range, and we would have to pay it,” Gordon added.

Councilman Ernest Hendricks

revealed that there has been a huge amount of interest in the position since Judge James announced that she is interested in hiring a qualified person for the job.

“I heard that there were a lot of applicants for the job,” he said.

Some city officials questioned whether the city could afford to add staff at a time when the economy is suffering.

Last sewer lines to Heights may be cut

The City of Inkster apparently wants to sever its ties with neighboring Dearborn Heights.

Three homes, in the Cherry Hill and Beech Daly Road area in the northeast section of the city whose sewer lines tap into the neighboring city, may be redirected into city sewer

lines, if some of the obstacles involving the operation can be resolved.

DPW officials said the sewer taps to the Heights were discovered when a contractor for a developer planning to construct a new subdivision in the area pointed out the lines.

Wade-Trim engineer Johnny Lev-

ette told mayor and council Wednesday night that it would be cost effective to redirect the three lines to the city's sewer lines, abandoning the combined sewer line. Although the cost of the project would be in the \$20,000 range, in the long run it would save the city mon-

ey by not paying for the combined sewer line and also adding the three houses to the city's system.

City Manager Robert Gordon pointed out that the three houses are within the City of Inkster and should be tied in with the city's system.

March Against Violence date is set

The March on Violence is on the move in the City of Inkster. Officials are seeking volunteers and funds in support of the annual trek that focuses upon eliminating violence from our streets.

Members of the YWCA of Western Wayne County are working on plans to sponsor ‘the March’ which is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 12.

The event will begin at 10 a.m. in the Home Depot Parking Lot on

Michigan Avenue and Guley Road in Dearborn Heights. It will proceed to the YWCA building at 26279 Michigan Avenue in Inkster.

Robert Ficano, the longtime Wayne County Sheriff, will be the guest speaker at the rally following the march.

Several units have signed up to participate, and the YWCA committee members are seeking additional marchers and musicians

from schools, churches, youth groups and other organizations to make the event successful.

“We want to make an impact on our community with our March on Violence,” said Corine Vincent, Executive Director for the YWCA. “The march is a visible way to express our anti-violence initiative in the community.”

The March Against Violence

on Oct. 12 is just the start of the crusade against violence. The hope is that the march will motivate other groups and organizations into taking positive action.

The YWCA is also seeking donations from businesses for the post-march luncheon. Those who wish to join the March Against Violence or make donations may contact the YWCA at 313-561-4110, extension 19.

Job well done

Sonya Manners (above, at left) had a vision that one day there would be a park near the Dartmouth Square Apartments for children to play in. Working through a maze of bureaucracy to obtain a grant of nearly \$107,000, Manners' vision became a reality last week as city, county and state officials, joined by Dartmouth Square residents and their children participated in a park dedication ceremony. As part of that ceremony, Inkster Mayor Hilliard Hampton Jr. presented Manners with a council resolution commending her efforts on behalf of the city and its children. Photo by Reggie Bradley

The average American works about 100,000 hours during their lifetimes to earn a comfortable retirement and provide an inheritance for their families. However, unless the worker has planned for their retirement and eventual death, a lifetime of wealth accumulation is at risk.

Unfortunately, that happens too often as nearly 70 percent of Americans do not properly plan for retirement or address the inevitable taxes and death. Without proper planning, a disability, incapacity or the cost of a nursing home could impoverish a retiree. Also without proper planning, upon death the probate system and the IRS could consume more of a retiree's estate than is passed to his/her family. That's where attorneys Victor Potapenko and Kevin Mawhinney and their law firm Estate Law, P.C., enter the picture. Victor, who has been practicing law for more than fifteen years, promotes the “team approach” to retirement and estate planning that he developed with the Estate Planning Institute.

“Proper planning requires a team of professionals, not only attorneys but financial experts as well,” he said. “That's where we're unique. Our practice deals with strategies to preserve family assets from the pitfalls and traps that can needlessly consume a lifetime of hard work.”

(The Estate Planning Institute offers free educational seminars in Western Wayne County to inform, educate and assist seniors with asset preservation.) Another innovation is Victor's legal fee. For a one-time fee, Victor creates an estate plan and provides a lifetime of service for his clients.

“We provide revisions to a client's estate-plan at no additional cost during the lifetime of the client” he said. “People enjoy having the freedom to call their attorney with questions or revisions and know that they will not receive a bill in the mail. Clients pay one fee and never pay it again and their children are provided with estate settlement assistance at no additional cost.”

The one-time fee stands in contrast to most law firm's hourly billing procedure, where an answer to a simple question could cost \$50 to \$70 dollars and trust revisions significantly more. It also saves heirs hundreds if not thousands of dollars in estate settlement.

Asset preservation begins when Victor thoroughly reviews a client's financial situation and their specific needs. When appropriate, he will then draft an estate plan, the building block of which is typically a revocable trust, commonly known as a living trust.

“A revocable trust must be tailored for a client's specific needs,” he said. “Currently there are many ‘estate planning firms’ that produce form documents that do not address our new Estate and Protected Individuals Code. Many clients of these estate planners may only speak briefly with an attorney by telephone, and furthermore may never have met with an attorney personally. In many instances the documents themselves are executed by non-attorneys.”

Some of the other trusts that can be used with a revocable trust are irrevocable life insurance trusts, charitable remainder trusts and grantor retained annuity trusts. A revocable trust is a legal entity created during a person's lifetime for owning and controlling an individual's assets. Upon a person's death, the assets funded into the trust pass to the designated heirs without any probate proceedings. Revocable trusts enable his clients to control their assets during their lifetimes and distribute those assets under their terms and conditions after death.

“Families desire a comprehensive plan in place that will keep their loved ones out of guardianship and conservator proceedings in probate court in case of incapacity and to avoid probate proceedings after death,” he said. “My clients can rest easy knowing they have provided a valuable gift to their children.”

If a client's concern is the avoidance of probate, Victor advises clients that a will is written to be probated. He said: “If upon a person's death assets are titled in their sole names, without beneficiary designations, pay-on-death options or survivorship rights, those assets will probably be subject to probate proceedings. The probate process amounts to sending invitations to potential disenchanted family members to cause trouble by contesting the will.”

Not so with a revocable trust.

“By having a properly drafted estate plan, you can reduce the likelihood of frivolous contests,” he said. “To contest a trust one would have to have knowledge of its existence and file a lawsuit against the trust as opposed to simply becoming a part of an existing probate estate. The attorney retainer may be as high as \$3,000 to \$5000 dollars. Even so, overturning a trust or will would entail proving incapacity, undue influence, or fraud, which is difficult. Further with the trust you can include a contest clause which would eliminate an heir if they do contest and are unsuccessful which is not enforceable in a will.”

Estate plans enable Victor's clients to leave funeral directions, reducing potential conflicts among family members about burial, cremation, or personal property bequeaths. “When people pass away, it is obviously very difficult for family members,” he said. “The more directions an individual has left, the less decisions the family has to make, making it easier for the family during their period of grief.”

Victor also counsels clients on how to preserve assets from potential nursing home spend-down created by Medicaid regulations.

“The current system forces seniors into poverty before Medicaid will pay for nursing home care,” he said. “Only when an individual's assets have been spent down to \$2,000 dollars will Medicaid start paying for nursing home care.” (At Estate Planning Institute seminars, the public is educated which assets are “countable,” thereby available to pay for nursing home care and which assets are exempt.)

Proper estate planning can reduce or eliminate federal and state estate “death” taxes.

To stay on top of laws affecting seniors, Victor joined the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. To better advise seniors, he became a Certified Senior Advisor. He is also a member of the State Bar of Michigan Probate and Estate Planning Section as well as the Elder Law Section.

To attend an estate-planning seminar or for more information about planning a secure retirement and preserving your life's earnings, call Estate Law, P.C., toll free at 800.228.4996.



Victor Potapenko

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NEWS FROM THE CITY OF WESTLAND

Homeless man robbed

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

Police failed to find the large bruiser who alleged assaulted and robbed a homeless man on Ford Road at 3:30 a.m. Monday.

The 33-year-old man, whose only roots are at a shelter in Ypsilanti, reported the incident to Westland police from a pay phone at Ford and Radcliff.

The victim told police that he had been walking west on a sidewalk along Ford Road.

A "storm cloud gray" Dodge Neon pulled beside him and stopped, he said.

The driver — described as a 6-5-foot, 280-pound black man — got out of the car and approached the homeless man.

"Give me your friggin' wallet," he said.

When the victim refused, the driver allegedly balled a fist and punched him in the stomach four times.

The blows knocked the victim to the ground.

The driver bent over and allegedly took the victim's wallet, removed \$260 in \$20 bills, and tossed the empty billfold to the ground.

The driver got back in his car and drove east.

The homeless man, who had been saving the money to rent a room, eventually composed himself, walked to a pay phone at Ford and Radcliff, and dialed for help.

Though a squad car failed to find the Dodge, Westland paramedics drove the homeless man to Garden City Hospital for treatment after the man complained of stomach pain and trouble breathing.

Bond turns school into showcase

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

Taft-Galloway Elementary School is a showcase.

School Planning and Management recently awarded the Wayne-Westland school, at 4035 Gloria, Wayne, its highest award: 2002 Education Design Showcase.

In a press release, a district spokesperson attributed the award to the \$110-million 1998 construction bond.

The bond funded the transformation of Taft-Galloway transformed from an out-of-date one-story school into a two story state-of-the-art place of learning.

This school has undergone the most renovation in the district, said the spokesperson.

More than 80 percent of the original building was demolished to make way to the new building, new parking lot and new playground.

And Taft-Galloway students, staff and administration are now proud of their newly renovated school, according to the spokesperson.

Suspected seat thief arrested

By IVAN HELFMAN
MCN Staff Writer

A 22-year-old Canton man was arrested early Tuesday morning on charges of receiving and concealing stolen property.

While on patrol, a Canton officer spotted a 2002 Ford Ranger sitting in the weeds off of Lotz Road north of Van Born.

He investigated and found the truck empty.

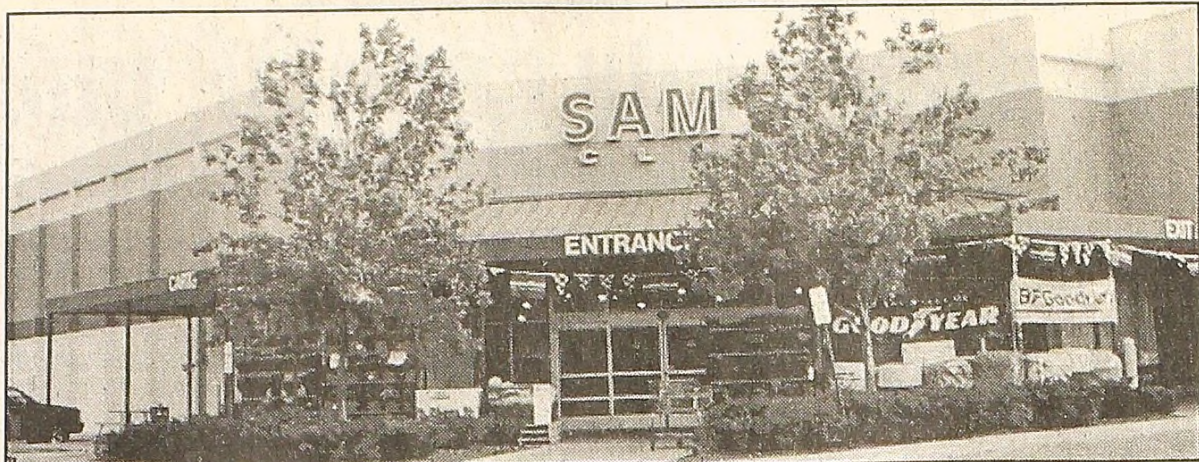
A short distance away, the officer saw a 1994 Lincoln Mark VIII and found parts missing from the vehicle.

Two seats from the Lincoln, valued at \$1,000, were sitting in the bed of the Ranger truck.

Officers discovered the owner of the truck through a records check and went to the Haggerty Road home.

Officers spoke to the owner, a 59-year-old Canton woman, and determined that her son had had possession of the truck earlier in the evening.

She convinced the 22-year-old to come home. Officers then took him into custody without incident.



Westland seeks bargain arena

Westland wants one last bargain from Sam's Club — a free building.

After Sam's Club declared its intention to leave its Westland site on Central City Parkway for a nearby Canton site on Ford Road, Mayor Sandra Cicirelli and Parks and Rec Director Bob Kosowski have hoped to entice Wal-Mart, owner of Sam's Club, to donate the empty building to be converted into an ice arena or a indoor soccer arena or a combination.

"Wal-Mart and the Sam Walton Foundation are generous," said Cicirelli.

She said that Wal-Mart, who has donated vacated buildings to other municipalities, asked Westland if the city would be interested in looking at the site for a possible partnership.

"The point is to make a presentation to one of Wal-Mart or one of its charities showing them that it would be feasible to convert the building in a cost-effective manner," she said.

To put together a credible presentation, she has asked the city council to approve \$25,000 for a feasibility study.

But the suggestion has drawn opposition.

Former city councilman Richard LeBlanc said that the city needs financial stability more than a new ice arena to replace the rink on Wildwood.

"The proposal does not help us financially by using TIFA funds (diverted property taxes collected and spent in the Central City Park area) to pay for a study," he said. "It doesn't make sense to do this, especially since cuts in public safety have been mentioned. I don't want one dime of our money spent on a feasibility study when the money may be spent elsewhere."

LeBlanc said that if the city needs an ice arena, then private enterprise

should build it."

"Where will we get the money for the feasibility study?" asked Larry Fowler, who had been surprised that TIFA money, since he had been repeatedly told that there wasn't any left this year.

But Councilman Dennis LeMaitre explained that the \$25,000 was interest money generated by TIFA's investments.

All of the discussion and interest in the arena caused Kosowski to postpone the feasibility study.

"After viewing last city council

meeting, several people came up to us offering us suggestions for the arena and services. I'd like time to research some of the offers to see if they are viable."

Despite the postponement, Kosowski wants to approach Wal-Mart.

"We have a great opportunity to offer something to Westland residents that could possibly be free."

Council postponed their decision on whether to pay for a feasibility study. No date has been set for the vote.

CITY OF ROMULUS
REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS
BID 02/03-30
Demolition List 02-01

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above service.

- Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Lynn A. Conway, Purchasing Coordinator, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, or by calling (734) 942-7564.
- Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes, and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 24, 2002. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE
BID 02/03-30 - Demolition List 02-01
11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan

(3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: September 19, 2002

Notice
City of Romulus

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT SUMMER TAXES ARE DUE **SEPTEMBER 30, 2002**. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED A SUMMER TAX BILL PLEASE REQUEST A COPY FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE, LOCATED AT ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174, TELEPHONE NUMBER (734) 942-7580, FAX NUMBER (734) 941-5541.

PURSUANT TO MICHIGAN COMPILED LAWS, GENERAL PROPERTY TAX LAW SECTION 211.44, FAILURE TO RECEIVE TAX NOTICE SHALL NOT AFFECT THE RIGHT TO COLLECT OR ENFORCE THE PAYMENT OF TAX.

Pamela Kersey, Treasurer
City of Romulus

Publish: September 12, 2002
September 19, 2002
September 26, 2002

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The City of Wayne Public Housing Commission has developed its Year 2003 Agency Plan in compliance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998. It is available for review after at the Commission's Office, located at 4001 S. Wayne Rd., Wayne, Michigan 48184. The Commission hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. In addition, a public hearing will be held on October 2, 2002 at the Department of Public Works building in the conference room at 3:00 p.m. Everyone is invited.

Publish: September 5, 2002
September 12, 2002
September 19, 2002
September 26, 2002

**CITY OF INKSTER
PROPERTIES FOR SALE**

Property Address	Minimum Bid Price
4187 Henry	\$10,000
25915 Lehigh	\$12,000
27069 Penn	\$10,000

Properties are transferred with Quit Claim Deeds any title searches are the responsibility of the Purchaser.

Properties will be open for public viewing on Saturday, September 28, 2002, 1-4 p.m. as well as by individual appointment.

BID CUT-OFF DATE: Monday, September 30, 2002, 4: 00 p. m. at the REALTOR'S office.

BID OPENING DATE: Tuesday, October 1, 2002, 4:00 p.m. at the City Clerk's office.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Red Carpet Keim, Will Coop., Inc.
3767 Inkster Rd.
(313) 274-3141

Publish: September 19, 2002
September 26, 2002

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Construction Finance
734-692-0072

Canton Kitchen/Bath
734-844-2679

Trenton Kitchen/Bath
734-692-0072

Week 3: Three teams have perfect records

Glenn, Belleville and would you believe Inkster are 3-0?

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Week 4 into the high school football season, and there appears to be two major surprises that have dominated the local gridiron. As expected and predicted in the pre-season phase, Belleville and Westland John Glenn, among those picked to win their respected conference titles, continue their quests for conference championships. Both are a perfect 3-0 on the year.

Joining the two perennial pow-

erhouses, however, this year is an Inkster High team that everyone expected to fold, but hasn't.

Inkster's outstanding early performances on one side; and Wayne Memorial's disastrous start, are among those early surprises that keep local fans in suspense.

Led by multi-talented Brandon Dawson who is rewriting the Viking's passing and scoring records, and with a new coach, Craig James, at the helm, the Vikings' ship is sailing along on a wave of three consecutive victories

”

Our players came up with the big plays at the right time.

Coach Bob LaPointe

- something that no one in these parts expected.

James and Dawson's big test this week will come on the home turf when Highland Park, a team

that most Mega-Gold coaches believe will be the next divisional champ, invades Inkster Stadium. If the Vikings can put together another performance like they have in

their past three, Inkster could be well on its way to its first-ever Mega-Gold football crown.

In the meantime, Glenn turned back Livonia Franklin, a team it has not played in nearly two decades (See related story on this page), while Belleville shut out Dearborn for their third wins.

Coach Bob LaPointe admitted that he didn't expect his Belleville Tigers to be 3-0 at this juncture of the campaign, but he is "happy to take it." The veteran coach attributed his team's success to the un-

canny ability of "our players to come up with the big plays at the right time."

That's a rare feat, in itself, coach.

Belleville's offense continues to sputter. In fact, against the Pioneers, it was the defense that set up the Tigers' initial score as Danny De La Torre picked off an errant pass in the first quarter to give his team excellent field position. But the Tiger offense failed to capital-

See **PERFECT**, page A-12

Rockets shoot down Patriots

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

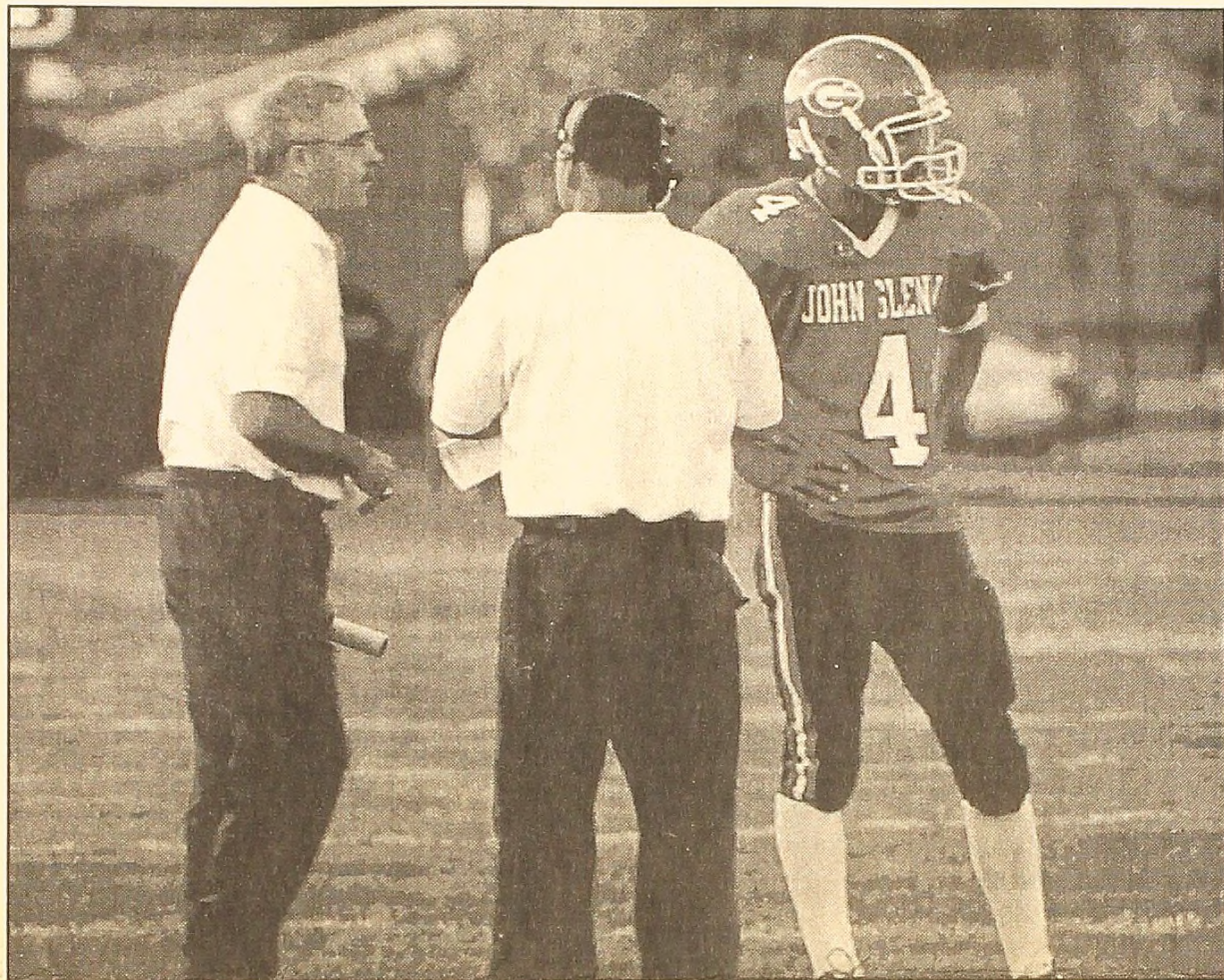
After nearly a two-decade hiatus of not meeting on the football field, although they are in the same football conference, but in separate divisions, Westland John Glenn and Livonia Franklin renewed their gridiron rivalry, and Friday night, when the smoke cleared, Glenn remained standing as the winner.

Coach Chuck Gordon's Rockets shot down the Patriots, 25-7, in a Western Lakes Conference football game to remain undefeated in Week 3.

The Westlanders scored in each of the four quarters en route to their third consecutive victory. They struck late in the opening period as their senior quarterback Brian Ceckiewicz engineered a nine-play, 34-yard drive which was culminated by a successful QB sneak.

Vinnie DeLuca's initial attempt for the point-after split the upright, but he had to repeat the effort when the officials detected an infraction. DeLuca's second attempt failed.

While the defense, led by Darnell Smith, Dan Beard, Jon Reid, and Nick Seymour, managed to shut down the Patriots' offense for more than three quarters - Franklin did scored late in the fourth against the Rockets' second unit, and that was on a 40-yard pass by quarterback Mike Johnson to Adam Vaughn.



Glenn coach Chuck Gordon (at left) reviews the troops and chats with one of his assistant coaches, while senior quarterback Brian Ceckiewicz (4) glances at the action on the gridiron. With three impressive victories behind them, the Rockets will take to the field Friday night before a Parents' Night crowd to challenge an improved Livonia Churchill squad for victory No. 4. Glenn is only one of three undefeated teams as Week 4 of the 2002 season gets underway. The other two are Belleville and Inkster. Photo by Carl Brown

The Rockets came back and made it a 12-0 game before the intermission.

Glenn's managed to score its second on a broken play which Ceckiewicz again salvaged. He scooped up a loose ball and returned it into the Franklin end zone from seven yards out. The TD was set up by DeAnthony Granberry's interception of a Johnson pass that put the ball on the Patriots' 20. Three plays later Ceckiewicz scored.

In the third period, Glenn run-

ning back Tony Davis polished off a seven-play, 68-yard drive with a 16-yard, off-tackle slant that culminated in a TD with 8:02 showing on the clock.

The final Westland TD went up on the scoreboard in the first minute (11:17) of the fourth quarter as the Rockets moved from midfield to the Franklin one where Matt Smitherman got the call, bolted toward the Franklin line, and then leaped over into the end zone.

DeLucas came back with his first point-after to cap the scoring.

Along with his one TD, Davis also rushed for 87 yards on 16 carries, while Smitherman picked up 76 yards on 12 tries. Ceckiewicz completed four of his eight passes for 35 yards.

Undefeated in three outings, Glenn will host an improved and very capable Livonia Churchill Friday night for Parents' Night. The Chargers have a 2-1 record and they still have very much to say who will be the first champ of the realigned Western Lakes Conference.

Inkster crushes Robichaud, 45-12

Bulldogs' Thomas returns pick 99-yards

It was one of the worst, if not the worst defeat, dished out to a Robichaud High School varsity football team by its natural rival, Inkster, in many a season.

With Inkster quarterback Brandon Dawson continuing to build a reputation as one of the finest quarterbacks in the area, if not the state this season, the Vikings buried Robichaud, 45-12, in a Mega Conference, Gold Division game for their third consecutive victory.

Dawson passed for three touchdowns, ran for another, and compiled a phenomenal 391-yards in the air in this lopsided victory. On the season, the senior Inkster QB has completed 40 of his 75 passes for 932 yards and nine touchdowns. His overall performance is a hallmark for a quarterback thus far this season.

"That comes out to 20 yards per completion," noted Craig James, who moved over from Woodhaven to coach at Inkster High this year. "Obviously, Brandon is off to an exceptional start. We just hope he can continue the momentum."

Robichaud averted complete humiliation when safety David Thomas stole one of Dawson's passes in the Bulldog end zone, shook off an Inkster defender, bolt-

ed up the middle and cut to the sideline and ran 99-yards for a touchdown. Thomas's TD also set a new school and field record for the Bulldogs.

"It was a superb effort by Thomas," said Robichaud's Mansfield Dinkins, who also is in his first year as head coach at the Dearborn Heights-based high school. "Inkster has a very talented team this year, and we wish them all the success in the world. They are playing exceptionally well."

Inkster worked its way to a 12-6 first-period lead, scored 26 unanswered points in the second period before coasting to their third straight victory. It also is the best start of a Viking team in the past two decades.

Inkster running back Ron Perry had a productive game against his neighborhood rivals. Perry, a senior, scored on runs of 30, 3, and 7 yards to account for three of the Viking touchdowns. Split end Mychal Yarborough also caught six of Dawson's tosses for 187 yards, while Victor Morris hauled in four passes for 77 yards.

On defense, Coach James pointed to linebackers Marcus Peterson and Daromis Broughton to provide two good reasons why Robichaud



Inkster's Brandon Dawson (1) has managed to get the Vikings off to three straight victories. The latest a 44-12 trouncing of neighborhood rival, Robichaud. The senior QB tossed for three TDs and also scored one against the Bulldogs who, after three weeks, are still in the hunt for their first win. Dawson and the Vikings will remain at home on Friday to host a tough Highland Park (2-1), while Robichaud is on the road. The Bulldogs take on Redford Union in a 7 p.m. game. Photo by Carl Brown.

had difficulty penetrating the Vikings' lines. Mike Turner, a 6-1, 200-pound junior, also stood out on the line. Turner is back in the line-up after nursing a knee injury. He managed to card three solo tackles.

Two bright spots in the Robichaud lineup were the overall performance of Thomas, who rushed for 101 yards on 13 carries, and the commendable effort by Mark Fletcher at quarterback.

He completed five of 14 passes for 122 yards.

Dinkins and the Bulldogs will travel to Redford Union Friday night in hopes of ending their three-game losing streak.

In the meanwhile, Inkster will seek to keep its 3-0 winning streak intact on Friday when Highland Park comes to town. The kickoff is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Canton bounces back, wins big over Wayne Memorial

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Wayne Memorial and Coach Floyd Carter may be the newest team on the Western Lakes Conference's block, and they are learning fast that conference coaches aren't offering them a grace period or a hospitality wagon so that they can get accustomed to the new neighborhood.

For the third consecutive week, Wayne was hammered by a conference opponent.

Last Friday, it was Plymouth-Canton, which took its frustrations and wrath of losing its first (to John Glenn) out on Wayne, 56-12.

Canton scored 21 unanswered points in the first period against Wayne, taking the suspense out of the game early.

And, for all purposes, the game was over at the half when Coach Tim Baechler's Chiefs piled up an incredible 42-6 advantage. Wayne couldn't handle the overall strength and experience that Canton put on the field Friday night.

Carter and the Zebras return home Friday night to host Livonia Franklin, which also has had its share of problems this season. The Patriots are coming off of a 25-7 loss to undefeated Westland John Glenn.

In the meantime, the Chiefs take on Walled Lake Western at Western in a game that both coaches realize is "a do-or-die" one.

What Canton can't afford is to lose to the hosts. It would put the Chiefs two games behind front-runner Glenn; Western needs the victory to keep pace with the Rockets.

"Western does so many things that, if your team is not prepared, could destroy you," Baechler stressed. "They also have a no-huddle offense that forces the defense to remain in tune to what's happening at all times."

It took Canton less than four minutes to light up the scoreboard against Wayne. The Chiefs marched 59-yards on seven plays

and scored on Devin Thomas's 29-yard run. With Ankit Kackhal's first of three extra-points in the first period, the hosts had a 7-0 lead with 8:25 on the board.

The TD would be the first of three Canton scored in the opening quarter. Thomas again struck. This time he dove over the goal line from one-yard out that put the icing on a 55-yard, five play drive which was set up by Corey Rutledge's 28-yard run.

Canton quarterback Dave Nicoloff tested the Wayne secondary that netted the Chiefs their final score of the first period. Nicoloff connected on a 46-yard pass play to Andy Howard, and with 3:02 left in the quarter, Canton had a 21-0 lead.

The Chiefs made it 28-0 with Thomas's exquisitely executed 73-yard run on the first play from scrimmage in the second period.

Wayne came back and broke up the Canton scoring monopoly as T. J. Dillard had the fans on their feet when he broke loose on a career-best 81-yard run for Wayne's only first half touchdown. Quarterback Zach Lappan's pass for the two-pointer missed its target.

The Chiefs replied with two TDs of their own. A six-play, 67-yard drive, sparked by Corey Rutledge's 22-yard run, ended with Rutledge's two-yard touchdown run. That was with 6:21 on the clock. Then, with 2:24 to the half-time, Julian Smith plowed over the Wayne goal line from two-yards out and his TD came after a 55-yard drive.

A trick play provided Wayne with its second score as Tyrell Ford's lateral pass to Lappan who, in turn, hit J. R. Fells, completed a 42-yard scoring play. The Wayne drive started on the Zebras' 36-yard line.

Travis McKinney's 46-yard run and Julian Smith's 14-yarder completed Canton's second half scoring.

Canton, as expected, dominated the stats as the Chiefs compiled 20 first downs to Wayne's 3, and amassed 531 yards to Wayne's 204.

See **CANTON**, page A-12

Wayne, Kaminsky win their first one

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

Coaches in most sports always remember when they chalked up their first-ever victory.

For Danny Kaminsky, his "first one" as head basketball coach for the Wayne Memorial girls' basketball team came last week against Taylor Kennedy, in a Mega Conference crossover.

"Simply put, it just felt great," said Kaminsky, after the Zebras snapped a two-game losing streak at the expense of Kennedy, 42-34. "You always wonder when you're going to win that first one. It was a great win for the team as well as personally."

"Now, with that behind us, we can concentrate on eliminating our mistakes and prepare for the conference season."

Wayne began the week with a 1-3 record. The Zebras were scheduled to entertain Romulus Tuesday

night, while they will take on state-ranked Plymouth-Salem on Thursday. Both are "home" games for Wayne

With junior Renita Price providing the scoring power, Wayne managed to edge Kennedy 9-2 in the first period, widened the gap to 20-7 at half, but allowed the downriver ball club to get back into the game in the third period. Wayne led by six, 28-22, for three periods and held on, thanks to a 14-12 advantage in the final period.

Price scored a game high 16 points. Her supporting cast included Shannan Jones, Ashley Britton and Twanase White, who each tossed in six points for the Zebras. Wayne was incredibly inept at the free throw line where they cashed in on only 14 of 34 offerings.

Kennedy got an excellent game out of Erica Alexander, who scored 12 points for the losers. Kennedy al-

See **WAYNE**, page A-12



The chase is on

With a wall of defenders behind him, which apparently allowed an Inkster defender to sneak through, Robichaud quarterback Marc Fletcher (13) scampers, then turns to hand off the ball to his tailback. Fletcher and the Bulldogs didn't get far on this play or against the visitors who handed the Dearborn Heights ball club a 45-12 loss. Undefeated in its first three starts, Inkster is seeking an unprecedented fourth straight victory this week when it entertains a tough Highland Park at 4 p.m.; Robichaud plays under the lights on Friday at Redford Union. The Bulldogs hope to snap a three-game losing streak. Photo by Carl Brown

Belleville hangs on to hand Romulus its first loss

It was close from the opening tip-off to the final whistle, but Belleville managed to hold off a previously undefeated Romulus in a cross-town girls' basketball game to post a big 53-47 victory over Coach Rhonda McAllister's Eagles.

Belleville led by eight, 15-7, before the Eagles, sparked by Alicia Harbor and Janiece Armstrong, rallied to within six at the half (23-17). But Coach Kevin Edwards' Tigers, thanks to Lisa DeBuck and Amantha Combs, managed to protect their precarious lead.

The Tigers held a 41-32 edge as the fourth quarter began. Romulus managed to keep the outcome of the game in suspense, but never worked its way to the lead in their first loss of the season.

Harbor and Armstrong shared their team's scoring honors. Each sank 14. For the game high, however, it was Combs, a Belleville senior, who sank 17 points. DeBuck chipped in with 14 for the Tigers, who also cashed in on seven of 15 from the free throw line.

Edwards, who has taken teams to the state quarterfinals in consecutive years, said he was very impressed with the Romulus team.

"They are a class act," said Edwards. "They're young and talented and are going to be a tough opponent in their division as well as the district. We were fortunate. We got away with one."

Belleville made it 3-2 on the season at the expense of Ann Arbor Greenhills, 57-35.

Tied at 12 after the first period, the Tigers outscored their non-conference rivals, 11-8, in the second period to walk off the floor at half-time in front, 23-20.

An 18-4 Belleville scoring advantage over the Ann Arbor quintet settled the issue in favor of the Tigers. Belleville's Lisa Montavo got a career high 17 points - six of those in the pivotal third period - while Combs came through with 14 for the Tigers, who also made six of 10 free throws.

Ann Arbor was led by Lori Bowman who had 14, and Ann Grotesky added 10.

After paying Willow Run a visit Tuesday night, Belleville will return home on Thursday to take on Ypsilanti in a crossover Mega Conference game.

Romulus bounced right back and destroyed Robichaud, 74-48, as the Bulldogs wasted Diane Kelly's 19 points and Mary Riley's 14. Robichaud had an excellent night at the free throw line where it canned 12 of 18 offerings.

Armstrong again stood out for the Eagles as she connected for a game-high 19 points. Brittany Brooks accounted for 17 points and Paris Hawkins had 15.

McAllister was critical of her team's overall performance at the free throw line where the Eagles made 27 of 42.

"There is no reason why we can't do better at the line," said McAllister. "It could cost us in the long run."

Romulus was at Wayne Memorial Tuesday night and will travel to Dearborn on Thursday to take on the T-Birds of Edsel Ford High.

Canton

continued from page A-11

For the first time in Canton's history, three separate players piled up 100-plus yards in one game. Thomas picked up 138 yards on eight attempts and

scored three touchdowns, while McKinney finished with 128 yards on 14 rushes. He also scored once. Rutledge contributed 105 yards on nine tries and one touchdown. Smith had two touchdowns on five attempts and 41 yards.

Wayne's best was Dillard who

rushed for 69 yards on 10 rushes.

Nicoloff went to the air three times and completed two for 47 yards; Lappan completed five of 10 for 56 yards and one TD. Wilson finished with two completions in three passes for 51 yards.

Wayne

continued from page A-11

so sank 10 of 23 at the free throw line.

Any hopes of Wayne building a

winning streak was shattered by Allen Park which outscored their rivals, 24-13, to take a 32-15 half-time lead en route to a lopsided 43-27 Mega crossover victory.

Price again led Wayne in scoring. She tallied 13 points for the Zebras

who again failed to capitalize on eight of their 11 shots at the free throw line.

"With the exception of that third quarter," stressed Kaminsky, "we played solid defense. It was the third period that was the difference."

Adrian snaps Glenn's 4-game winning streak

By TOM MOORADIAN
MCN Staff Writer

As a veteran coach Mike Schuette knows all about winning and losing streaks. Winning streaks, as the cliché notes, are made to be broken; losing streaks will come and go.

And, Adrian, with two lanky sisters - Lora and Kelly Kohm in its lineup - took on the Schuette's previously undefeated Rockets and crushed them, 64-24, in an out of conference girls' basketball game, and that loss cut the Rockets four-game winning streak.

"They're a very good team," said Schuette, who returned to coaching at the high school this fall after a brief hiatus. "If they (Adrian) aren't ranked, they

"Stevenson has an excellent team, and we're looking forward to the match up"

Mike Schuette

should and will be. I believe that they are one of the better teams in the state this year."

Adrian left nothing to speculation as Lora and Kelly combined for 38 of their team's 64 points. Lora, a 5-10 senior, garnered most of her points under the basket and also nailed down 12 rebounds before she was removed from the

game for a rest. Sister Kelly, just a 5-6 freshman, also tossed in 19 points for the winners.

For the first time this year Glenn didn't have a player who hit in double figures.

Schuette and the Rockets will have an opportunity to start a new streak (or extend their losing streak) on Thursday when Western Lakes Conference opponent, Livonia Stevenson, pays Glenn a visit. The Westlanders clashed with Garden City on Tuesday.

"Stevenson has an excellent team, and we're looking forward to the match up," said Schuette. "But we need to fire-up our offense in order to remain competitive. Our defense has been able to play with our opponents - but we do need more scoring power."

Perfect

continued from page A-11

ize, and LaPointe called upon David Chudzinski to get the team on the scoreboard.

The senior kicker didn't disappoint - he booted one from 41-

yards out to lift the Tigers to a 3-0 lead.

Belleville reciprocated on its next series with a turnover, but Dearborn failed to use its golden chance. The Tigers fumbled in their next series, handing the ball over to the Pioneers who failed to penetrate the defenses as Ethan Wilkin-

son, the Pioneers' leading rusher, was sacked by Tiger linebacker Andre Olden on two separate attempts for losses.

Belleville scored what proved to be the game's final touchdown when junior Jon Warren returned a punt in the second quarter and ran it 62-yards over the Pioneer goal line.

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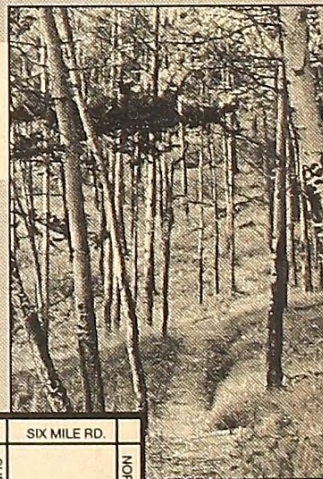


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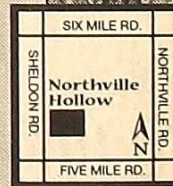
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Salem wins a 'wild one' over Northville

Rocks up by 21, need rally to preserve victory

Up by 21 points at the end of the first half, Plymouth-Salem squandered its lead, then staged an incredible rally to stop Northville Friday night.

"I told my kids that they showed me two things tonight," said Salem coach Bob Cummings after the Rocks put away Northville, 34-30, in one of the wildest games of the week. "First, they showed me that they can score points against a good team, and secondly, they showed me they won't quit and will play until that final whistle."

It looked easy, too easy for the previously winless Rocks who jumped out to a 21-0 lead as quarterback Chris Drabicki scored on two of his 12 completions. He teamed up with split end Brian Bradley on a 21-yard touchdown pass midway in the first quarter, and also hooked up with Alex Enright for a 35-yarder to give Salem their second touchdown of the game.

Drabicki's quarterback sneak from the one yard line provided the Rocks with their third and final TD of the first half. Those 21 points appeared to be enough to give Salem the victory. The Rocks' defense, after all, had shut out Northville the first half and looked as if they had everything under control.

Enright made all four of the extra points.

But, after a scoreless first half, Northville came alive. They broke into the scoring column for their first TD of the game early in the third quarter. Northville also erupted for three unanswered touchdowns to move to the lead.

It was definitely shaping up to look like one of those classic Friday the 13th nightfalls for Coach Cummings and his Rocks.

"It really didn't look good at all," said Cummings later. "I just couldn't believe what was happening out there."

But the tide changed as Drabicki engineered the comeback in the final five minutes. He drove 80-yards, the last one was tailback Matt Trublowski's TD plunge.

"Believe me, I didn't believe it at first that we had pulled this one out," said Cummings later. "I know our kids deserved to win. But deserving and actually winning are two different things."

Cummings, in his second year as head coach, was pleased with the way his linebackers Mike Callegari and David Hall performed against Northville.

Drabicki had his best game of the young season as he hit on 12 of 21 passes for 197 yards and two touchdowns. Mike Kerol also chipped in 138 yards on 19 rushing attempts.

Salem has a big assignment for this Friday. They face an undefeated Livonia Stevenson on the home turf, and Cummings says he hopes his team's momentum can sustain them in a game "that will define the character of both teams."

"This one is a big one for both teams. It should be interesting to see what the outcome is."

Controversial penalties stop Romulus at Rouge

A wiser Romulus takes on Trenton next

Some controversial, even questionable infractions, charged to Romulus in the opening quarter, shattered Coach Wade Cook's Eagles' dreams of beating pre-season Mega Conference title hopeful, River Rouge, on Friday. Romulus was slapped with 10 penalties that left them red-faced with frustration and a 17-12 loss to Rouge.

"It hurts to lose, but it hurts more when you know that your team is better," said Cook later. "We are not a 1-2 team. We're much better than that. We gave one away to Ypsilanti two weeks ago, and they took one away from us at Rouge."

A 24-yard Rouge field goal sealed Rouge's 17-12 victory over the visiting Eagles.

Romulus also had one touchdown called back and a safety nullified that may have decided the outcome of the game.

"I have told my kids that they have to play above the environment. Like a golfer they must learn to focus on the task in front of them and not allow others to take their concentration away from their goals," Cook said. "It's unfortunate, but these are the facts we face."

Romulus tailback Chris Middlebrooks scored both of the Eagles' touchdowns. His first TD was from 12-yards out. The TD capped a midfield drive in the second period. Then, in the third, the Eagles came back with another drive that culminated with Middlebrooks' 27-yard touchdown.

The Eagles missed on both point-after.

Middlebrooks picked up 133-yard rushing on 16 attempts and two touchdowns. Quarterback Jason Watson couldn't hook up with his receivers as he completed only two of 11 passes.

The Eagles will have to put their losses aside and get ready for a Trenton team that has won two of its three games this season.

"They're a solid team that has an excellent passer. And they are also tough on defense," said Cook. "But our kids have shown they can play. We're quicker and hopefully wiser after our first three games."

Romulus will host the 7 p.m. Mega Conference game Friday.

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